

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California



January 25, 2011

Mr. Jared Blumenfeld
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IX Regional Administrator
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

SUBJECT: NAAQS FOR NITROGEN DIOXIDE DESIGNATION RECOMMENDATION FOR WASHOE TRIBAL LANDS

This letter is in response to the letter you sent on November 12, 2010 providing the Tribe an opportunity to engage in formal or informal consultation on the designation areas under the recently revised primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂). The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California has fractionated lands in California and Nevada throughout several counties. Although the Tribe has had an Environmental Department for over 10 years and applied for funding under the Clean Air Act (CAA) we have never received CAA funding to establish air monitoring stations on Washoe lands.

The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California supports the efforts of the USEPA to strengthen air quality standards to protect public health and is recommending that areas that fall within the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California's lands be designated at this time as "unclassifiable" for NO₂ NAAQS. This recommendation is based on insufficient data to determine whether or not the areas are attaining the revised 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS.

The Tribe is not requesting at this time formal consultation but would like to be kept informed with this action. Please contact Marie Barry, Environmental Director at (775) 265-8682 or marie.barry@washoetribe.us if you have any questions regarding our designation recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lloyd L. Wyatt", is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Lloyd L. Wyatt, Vice Chairman
cc: Marie Barry, Environmental Director
Lynelle Hartway, General Counsel

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